

ABSTRACT:

A data collection system for transmitting data from user equipment to a user application server over a GSM network is provided. According to an aspect of the invention, a data terminal apparatus is configured to simulate a circuit switched call link to the user equipment, while providing a communications call link to the GSM network over a non-circuit switched call link.

According to embodiments described herein, the non-circuit switched call link is achieved via packetizing serial data from the user equipment into short message service messages, or alternatively via general packet radio service messages. As a result of the methods and apparatuses of the present inventions, legacy serial communications equipment can be integrated into a data collection network and remotely monitored without the costs associated with deploying service personnel or more costly circuit switched type equipment and services.